

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in the present application. By this amendment, claims 1, 6-7, and 12 are amended. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present claims in view of the following remarks.

I. Prior Art Rejections

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 4,899,276 to Stadler (hereinafter "Stadler"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As amended, claims 1 and 7 recite that a method of displaying a static information tip and a computer readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions comprise the steps of providing a plurality of data fields, wherein the plurality of data fields comprises a first data field and a second data field; focusing on the first data field; in response to focusing on the first data field, displaying a first static information tip proximate to the first data field; focusing on the second data field; hiding from view the first static information tip; and in response to focusing on the second data field, displaying a second static information tip proximate to the second data field, whereby the first static information tip does not interrupt data input into the first data field and whereby the first information tip remains displayed until the step of focusing on the second data field.

Stadler does not disclose a method of displaying a static information tip or a computer readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions comprising the steps of in response to focusing on the first data field, displaying a first static information tip proximate to the first data field, and in response to focusing on the second data field, displaying a second static information tip proximate to the second data field. On the contrary, Stadler discloses a field-directed screen help technique for a data entry system including the step of displaying a "window" which provides an explanation that is specifically directed to the field in which the cursor is located when a user presses the F1 or "help" key in a data entry system. Unlike the present invention which recites

displaying a first static information tip proximate to the first data field *in response to focusing on the first data field* and displaying a second static information tip proximate to the second data field *in response to focusing on the second data field*, Stadler discloses that *a user must press the F1 or "help" key in a data entry system* to display a window providing an explanation directed to the filed in which the cursor is located. Thus, Stadler fails to disclose the present invention as embodied in amended claims 1 and 7.

For at least these reasons, amended claims 1 and 7 are allowable over Stadler. Accordingly, withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 2-6 and 8-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Stadler in view of United Stated Patent No. 4,646,250 to Childress (hereinafter "Childress"), and further in view of United States Patent No. 5,736,984 to Jellinek et al. (hereinafter "Jellinek").

For at least the reasons stated above, claims 1 and 7 are allowable over Stadler. Since claims 2-5 and 8-11 depend from claims 1 and 7, respectively, and recite additional features, Applicants respectfully submit that Stadler does not make obvious Applicants' claimed invention as embodied in claims 2-5, and 8-11 for at least these reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

As amended, claim 6 recites that a method of displaying a static information tip and an error marker comprises the steps of focusing on a first data field; in response to focusing on the first data field, displaying a first static information tip proximate to the first data field; entering data in the first data field while continuing to display the first static information tip; focusing on a second data field; hiding from view the first static information tip; determining the data entered into the first data field is erroneous; placing an error marker adjacent to the first data field; refocusing on the first data field; and displaying a second static information tip proximate to the first data field, the second static information tip containing information for correcting the data entered into the first data field.

Similarly, as amended, claim 12 recites a system for displaying a static information tip and an error marker comprises a computer program module operative to

focus on a first data field; to display a first static information tip proximate to the first data field in response to focusing on the first data field; to receive data in the first data field while continuing to display the first static information tip; to determine the data entered into the first data field is erroneous; to place an error marker adjacent to the first data field; to refocus on the first data field; and to display a second static information tip proximate to the first data field, the second static information tip containing information for correcting the data entered into the first data field.

Stadler fails to disclose, teach, or suggest a method of displaying a static information tip and an error marker or a system for displaying a static information tip and an error marker comprising a computer program module that in response to focusing on the first data field, displays a first static information tip proximate to the first data field; determines the data entered into the first data field is erroneous; places an error marker adjacent to the first data field; refocuses on the first data field; and displays a second static information tip proximate to the first data field, the second static information tip containing information for correcting the data entered into the first data field. As discussed above, Stadler discloses a field-directed help screen technique that displays a "window" which provides an explanation that is specifically directed to the field in which the cursor is located when a user presses the F1 or "help" key in a data entry system. Thus, Stadler fails to disclose, teach, or suggest the present invention as embodied in claims 6 and 12.

The Office Action recognizes that Stadler fails to disclose means for detecting or handling errors within a field, as recited by the present invention, and relies on the teaching of Childress to allegedly cure these deficiencies of the teaching of Stadler. However, similar to Stadler, Childress does not disclose, teach, or suggest a method of displaying a static information tip and an error marker or a system for displaying a static information tip and an error marker comprising a computer program module that in response to focusing on the first data field, displays a first static information tip proximate to the first data field; places an error marker adjacent to the first data field; refocuses on the first data field; and displays a second static information tip proximate to the first data field, the second static information tip containing information for correcting the data entered into the first data field. Moreover, Childress further fails to disclose,

teach, or suggest a method or computer module that enters data in the first data field while continuing to display the first static information tip; focuses on a second data field; and hides from view the first static information tip. Instead, Childress discloses an interactive data entry system that checks the correctness of the data entered by a user into a data entry field, and if an error is detected, the incorrectly entered data is redisplayed with highlighting, without discussing providing a first information tip in response to focusing on the data entry field or providing a second information tip containing information for correcting the data entered into the data entry field. Therefore, like Stadler, Childress fails to disclose, teach, or suggest the present invention as embodied in claims 6 and 12.

The Office Action recognizes that Stadler and Childress do not provide means for displaying a second static information tip proximate to the first data field, as recited by the present invention, and relies on the teaching of Jellinek to allegedly cure these deficiencies. However, like Stadler and Childress, Jellinek does not disclose, teach, or suggest a method of displaying a static information tip and an error marker or a system for displaying a static information tip and an error marker comprising a computer program module that in response to focusing on the first data field, displays a first static information tip proximate to the first data field; and places an error marker adjacent to the first data field. Moreover, Jellinek fails to disclose, teach, or suggest a method or a computer program module that focuses on a second data field, and hides from view the first static information tip.

On the contrary, Jellinek discloses an apparatus and method for processing user defined input including receiving input data from a user in a first graphical processing element, determining whether the input data is valid, and if the input is determined invalid, displaying a feedback message in combination with the first graphical processing element in a second graphical processing element. This is not analogous to the method and system recited in claims 6 and 12, respectively, because Jellinek does not disclose providing a first static information tip in response to focusing on the graphical processing element and providing an error marker adjacent to the graphical processing element if the input in the processing element is determined erroneous. Therefore, like Stadler and

Childress, Jellinek fails to disclose, teach, or suggest the present invention as embodied in claims 6 and 12.

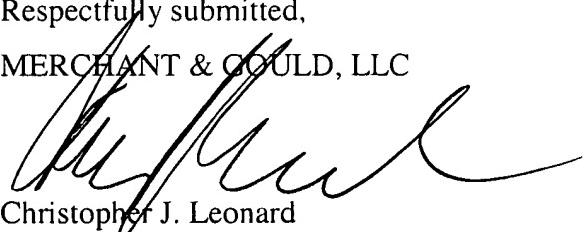
Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to combine the teachings of Stadler, Childress, and Jellinek and subsequently modify the teaching of Stadler as suggested in the Office Action absent the impermissible use of hindsight. The only motivation for such a combination of teachings and subsequent modification of the teaching of Stadler has been deemed from a review of Applicants' invention, not from what is being taught or suggested from the cited art. For at least this reason, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of the teaching of Stadler with the teachings of Childress and Jellinek is improper.

For at least these reasons, amended claims 6 and 12 are allowable over Stadler. Accordingly, withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

For at least these reasons, Applicants assert that the pending claims 1-12 are in condition for allowance. The Applicants further assert that this response addresses each and every point of the Office Action, and respectfully requests that the Examiner pass this application with claims 1-12 to allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at 404.954.5037.



Respectfully submitted,
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